

# **Annual Report**

**of**

## **Occupational Injuries and Illnesses**

### **1999**

Prepared by

**Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission**

P. O. Box 5300

Jackson, Mississippi 39296-5300

(601) 987-4200



## Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission

1428 Lakeland Drive / Post Office Box 5300

Jackson, Mississippi 39296-5300

(601) 987-4200

<http://www.mwcc.state.ms.us>

Ben Barrett Smith, Chairman  
Barney J. Schoby, Commissioner  
Beverly A. Bolton, Commissioner

Ray Minor, Executive Director

September 1, 2000

TO: Honorable Ronnie Musgrove, Governor  
Members of the Mississippi Legislature

The Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission is pleased to present its 1999 Annual Report. This Report is being presented entirely in electronic format and is available for viewing and printing on our web site at [www.mwcc.state.ms.us](http://www.mwcc.state.ms.us). This presentation is made possible by the upgrade of our claims management and other information systems, and is one example of how we are able to manage and distribute information more efficiently.

Currently, all non-litigated claims are managed and stored on-line through the use of document imaging technology, thus eliminating the need for paper files. The Commission is studying ways to expand the use of available technologies to improve its functions in the litigated claims arena and in the self-insurance arena, and to improve the delivery of services and information to the general public.

One of the statistical highlights from this year's Report is the decrease in the number of new claims filed in 1999. In fact, the number of new claims filed in 1999 is the lowest since 1985. The number of litigated claims in 1999, as a percentage of new claims filed, increased, however, but only slightly from last year.

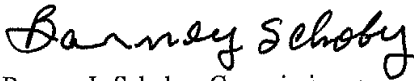
The Workers' Compensation Law continues to play an important role in the lives of employers and employees across the State. The Commission's mission is to administer and enforce this Law in an efficient and equitable manner through the performance of administrative and quasi-judicial functions, to aid in and promote the prevention of occupational injury and illness, and in the event of such injury, to secure, monitor, and compel, if necessary, the provision of statutorily mandated benefits in furtherance of the injured workers' rehabilitation and

restoration to health and vocational opportunity. The fulfillment of this mission would not be possible without the support and cooperation we have enjoyed from the Governor's Office and the Legislature, and we look forward to continuing this productive relationship.

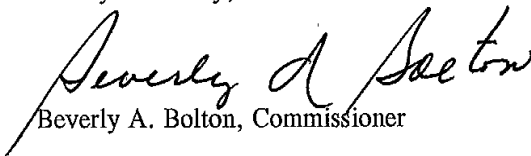
For the Commission:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ben Barrett Smith".

Ben Barrett Smith, Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barney Schoby".

Barney J. Schoby, Commissioner

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Beverly A. Bolton".

Beverly A. Bolton, Commissioner

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Injuries/Illnesses by Gender .....	1
Injuries/Illnesses by Industry .....	1
Death Claims by Cause .....	2
Injuries/Illnesses by Nature .....	3
Injuries/Illnesses by Part of Body .....	4
Injuries/Illnesses by Cause .....	5
Injuries/Illnesses by Month .....	6
Injuries/Illnesses by Day of Week .....	6
Injuries/Illnesses by County of Occurrence .....	7
Financial Report .....	8

**TOTAL NUMBER OF INJURIES/ILLNESSES  
LISTED BY *GENDER* - 1999**

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Female	6,154	38.72%
Male	9,735	61.26%
Unknown	3	0.02%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,892</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**TOTAL NUMBER OF INJURIES/ILLNESSES  
LISTED BY *INDUSTRY* - 1999**

<b>Industry</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish	178	1.12%
Mining	106	0.67%
Construction	1,464	9.21%
Manufacturing	4,308	27.11%
Transportation, Utilities	1,139	7.17%
Wholesale Trade	427	2.69%
Retail Trade	1,878	11.82%
Finance, Real Estate, Ins.	139	0.87%
Services	3,764	23.68%
Public Administration	534	3.36%
Non-classifiable	68	0.43%
Other	1887	11.87%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,892</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**TOTAL NUMBER OF INJURIES/ILLNESSES RESULTING IN *DEATH*  
LISTED BY CAUSE - 1999**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Fall/slip Different Level	3	3.03%
Motor Vehicle/collision	18	18.18%
Vehicle Upset	9	9.09%
Machine moving parts	1	1.01%
Struck/injured Noc.	1	1.01%
Dust,Gases,Fumes	2	2.02%
Elect. Current. Contact	3	3.03%
Struck /Inj by falling object	3	3.03%
Motor vehicle, Noc	4	4.04%
Cumulative (All Others)	27	27.27%
Person (Criminal act)	1	1.01%
Other than Physical	2	2.02%
Fall/slip/Trip(NOC)	2	2.02%
Other Misc. Causes	23	23.23%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**NUMBER OF INJURIES/ILLNESSES LISTED BY NATURE**  
**1999**

<b>Description</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Unknown	2	0.01%	Radiation	2	0.01%
Amputation	143	0.90%	Sprain	852	5.36%
Burn	270	1.70%	Strain	5,377	33.83%
Concussion	14	0.09%	Asphyxiation	1	0.01%
Contusion	1,453	9.14%	Vascular Loss	36	0.23%
Crushing	117	0.74%	Vision Loss	5	0.03%
Dislocation	82	0.52%	All Other injury-nec	4,118	25.91%
Electric Shock	17	0.11%	Mental Stress	34	0.21%
Dermatitis	30	0.19%	Resp Disordr/gas,fume	68	0.43%
Foreign Body	84	0.53%	Poisoning-chemical	3	0.02%
Fracture	1,170	7.36%	Poisoning-general	3	0.02%
Freezing	2	0.01%	Mental Disorder	2	0.01%
Hear Loss/traumatic	12	0.08%	Angina Pectoris	2	0.01%
Heat Prostration	27	0.17%	All Other Occ. Disease	2	0.01%
Hernia	241	1.52%	Loss of Hearing	4	0.03%
Infection	48	0.30%	Contagious Disease	2	0.01%
Inflammation	129	0.81%	Mult Inj- Physical only	32	0.20%
Laceration	888	5.59%	Mult Inj - Physical&Psych	1	0.01%
Myocardial Infarction	36	0.23%	Carpal Tunnel Synd.	246	1.55%
Puncture	220	1.38%	No Physical Injury	13	0.08%
Severance	34	0.21%	Swoon,Faint, etc.	6	0.04%
Rupture	30	0.19%	All Other Cumul. Inj.	34	0.21%
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,892</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**NUMBER OF INJURIES/ILLNESSES  
LISTED BY *PART OF THE BODY* AFFECTED  
1999**

<b>Description</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Unknown	2	0.01%	Finger(s)	883	5.56%
Multiple Head Injury	117	0.74%	Thumb	265	1.67%
Skull	121	0.76%	Multiple Trunk	332	2.09%
Brain	7	0.04%	Upper Back-thoracic	89	0.56%
Ear(s)	27	0.17%	Lower Back-lumbar	2,929	18.43%
Eyes(s)	171	1.08%	Trunk Vertebrae(noc)	5	0.03%
Nose	25	0.16%	Shoulder(s)	192	1.21%
Teeth	10	0.06%	Chest-ribs, sternum	181	1.14%
Mouth	10	0.06%	Lungs	13	0.08%
Other Soft Tissue	55	0.35%	Sacrum and Coccyx	44	0.28%
Facial Bones	25	0.16%	Pelvis	54	0.34%
Multiple Neck Injury	48	0.30%	Abdomen(Inc. Groin)	125	0.79%
Vertebrae	14	0.09%	Internal Organs	313	1.97%
Disc-Neck	13	0.08%	Heart	45	0.28%
Disc-Back	19	0.12%	Multiple Low Extrem	250	1.57%
Spinal Cord	2	0.01%	Hip	133	0.84%
Trachea	2	0.01%	Thigh	64	0.40%
Larynx	2	0.01%	Buttocks	2	0.01%
Soft Tissue	153	0.96%	Knee	1,348	8.48%
Mult. Upper Extrem.	688	4.33%	Lower Leg	431	2.71%
Upper Arm	710	4.47%	Ankle	618	3.89%
Elbow	185	1.16%	Foot	572	3.60%
Lower Arm	424	2.67%	Toe(s)	129	0.81%
Wrist	642	4.04%	Great Toe	5	0.03%
Wrist(s) & Hand(s)	9	0.06%	No Physical Injury	9	0.06%
Hand	734	4.62%	Insufficient Info	28	0.18%
			Body System & Multi	8	0.05%
			Multiple Body Parts	2,610	16.42%
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,892</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



## NUMBER OF INJURIES/ILLNESSES LISTED BY CAUSE

1999

Description	No.	Percent	Description	No.	Percent
Acid Chemicals	36	0.23%	Step on Sharp Object	37	0.23%
Contact, Hot Objects	45	0.28%	Strike against/step Misc	86	0.54%
Temperature Extremes	20	0.13%	Struck/inj Falling Obj	584	3.67%
Fire or Flame	26	0.16%	Hand Tool/mach in Use	83	0.52%
Steam or Hot Fluids	115	0.72%	Motor Vehicle	56	0.35%
Dust, Gases, Fumes	75	0.47%	Machine Moving Parts	91	0.57%
Welding Operations	21	0.13%	Lifted or Handled Obj	318	2.00%
Radiation	1	0.01%	Obj Handled by Others	38	0.24%
Contactw/noc-radiation	30	0.19%	Struck/injured Misc.	215	1.35%
Machinery	267	1.68%	Elect. Current Contact	22	0.14%
Object Handled	56	0.35%	Animal or Insect	63	0.40%
Caught In/between Misc	207	1.30%	Explosion/flare Back	18	0.11%
Abnormal air pressure	1	0.01%	Foreign Body in Eye	67	0.42%
Cut/scrap Broken Glass	20	0.13%	Person-criminal Assault	40	0.25%
Hand Tool, Not Powered	127	0.80%	Person(not in act of crime)	36	0.23%
Powered Hand Tool	295	1.86%	Other than Physical	16	0.10%
Cut/scrape Misc.	261	1.64%	Repetitive Motion	682	4.29%
Fall/slip Diff Level	636	4.00%	Cumulative (All Others)	2,174	13.68%
From Ladder, scaffold	219	1.38%	Wielding/Throwing	4	0.03%
From Liquid Grease Spills	270	1.70%	Object lifted/handled	48	0.30%
Into opening	68	0.43%	Absorption/Ingestion/	10	0.06%
On ice or snow	8	0.05%	Rubbed/abraded noc	6	0.04%
On stairs	17	0.11%	Continual noise	22	0.14%
On Same Level	857	5.39%	Collapsing materials	5	0.03%
Slipped, Not Fall	153	0.96%	Crash of water vehicle	1	0.01%
Fall/slip/trip Misc.	907	5.71%	Airplane Crash	2	0.01%
Motor Vehicle/collision	449	1.35%	Other Misc. Causes	372	2.34%
Fixed Object/collision	10	0.06%			
Vehicle Upset	187	1.18%	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,892</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
Motor Vehicle Misc.	61	0.38%			
Jumping/Twisting	168	1.06%			
Holding or Carrying	120	0.76%			
Lifting	2,645	16.64%			
Pushing or Pulling	805	5.07%			
Reaching	175	1.10%			
Using Tool or Machine	317	1.99%			
Strain/inj Misc.	848	5.34%			
Strike/step Moving-parts	10	0.06%			
Lifted/handled Obj	38	0.24%			
Stationary Object	225	1.42%			

**NUMBER INJURIES/ILLNESSES  
LISTED BY *MONTH* - 1999**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
January	1,279	8.05%
February	1,277	8.04%
March	1,437	9.04%
April	1,358	8.55%
May	1,305	8.21%
June	1,461	9.19%
July	1,361	8.56%
August	1,540	9.69%
September	1,360	8.56%
October	1,346	8.47%
November	1,099	6.92%
December	1,005	6.32%
Unknown	64	0.40%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,892</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**NUMBER OF INJURIES/ILLNESSES  
LISTED BY *DAY OF WEEK* - 1999**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Sunday	806	5.07%
Monday	3,045	19.16%
Tuesday	2,909	18.30%
Wednesday	2,740	17.24%
Thursday	2,717	17.10%
Friday	2,483	15.62%
Saturday	1,128	7.10%
Unknown	64	0.40%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,892</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

# NUMBER OF INJURIES/ILLNESSES BY COUNTY

1999

Description	No.	Percent	Description	No.	Percent
Adams	228	1.4	Lowndes	322	2.0
Alcorn	208	1.3	Madison	421	2.7
Amite	49	0.3	Marion	136	0.9
Attala	118	0.7	Marshall	118	0.7
Benton	32	0.2	Monroe	163	1.0
Bolivar	133	0.8	Montgomery	50	0.3
Calhoun	60	0.4	Neshoba	191	1.2
Carroll	13	0.1	Newton	85	0.5
Chickasaw	150	0.9	Noxubee	50	0.3
Choctaw	55	0.3	Oktibbeha	167	1.1
Claiborne	42	0.3	Panola	170	1.1
Clarke	65	0.4	Pearl River	143	0.9
Clay	102	0.6	Perry	62	0.4
Coahoma	155	1.0	Pike	278	1.8
Copiah	141	0.9	Pontotoc	101	0.6
Covington	82	0.5	Prentiss	77	0.5
DeSoto	363	2.3	Quitman	12	0.1
Forrest	544	3.4	Rankin	801	5.0
Franklin	34	0.2	Scott	130	0.8
George	49	0.3	Sharkey	10	0.1
Greene	34	0.2	Simpson	126	0.8
Grenada	172	1.1	Smith	71	0.4
Hancock	175	1.1	Stone	60	0.4
Harrison	1143	7.2	Sunflower	215	1.4
Hinds	1909	12.0	Tallahatchie	33	0.2
Holmes	72	0.5	Tate	74	0.5
Humphreys	54	0.3	Tippah	92	0.6
Issaquena	1	0.0	Tishomingo	108	0.7
Itawamba	86	0.5	Tunica	176	1.1
Jackson	492	3.1	Union	111	0.7
Jasper	67	0.4	Walthall	47	0.3
Jefferson	38	0.2	Warren	250	1.6
Jefferson Davis	45	0.3	Washington	269	1.7
Jones	562	3.5	Wayne	76	0.5
Kemper	14	0.1	Webster	48	0.3
Lafayette	147	0.9	Wilkinson	25	0.2
Lamar	95	0.6	Winston	93	0.6
Lauderdale	549	3.5	Yalobusha	38	0.2
Lawrence	37	0.2	Yazoo	85	0.5
Leake	103	0.6	Out-of-state	868	5.5
Lee	671	4.2	Unknown	70	<u>0.4</u>
Leflore	215	1.4	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15,892</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Lincoln	166	1.0			

**Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission**  
**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**For Fiscal Year 1999**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE FUND**

Cash Balance in State Treasury July 1, 1998 .....	\$	1,036,152.10	
Accounts Receivable .....		52,893.00	
Interest Receivable .....		16,114.00	
Investment in Certificates of Deposit .....		<u>5,200,000.00</u>	
Total .....			\$6,305,159.10

**RECEIPTS:**

Workers' Comp Administration Fees .....	\$	4,180,446.45	
Interest on Investments .....		172,254.52	
Other Income .....		<u>41,148.59</u>	
Total .....			\$ 4,393,849.56

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

Salaries .....	\$	2,419,350.66	
Employers' Retirement Matching .....		241,312.63	
Social Security Matching .....		180,151.54	
Workers' Compensation Coverage .....		7,627.00	
Life Insurance Premium Contribution .....		6,477.60	
Health Insurance Premium Contribution .....		132,663.00	
Cafeteria Plan - Adm. & Salary Reduction .....		55,961.39	
Unemployment Insurance Tax .....		0.00	
Travel Expense .....		101,944.29	
Tuition .....		5,933.00	
Postage & Box Rent .....		81,585.19	
Telephone Service .....		32,676.56	
Transportation of Things .....		8,586.29	
Utilities .....		65,755.29	
Rental of Office Equipment .....		20,545.71	
Rental of EDP Equipment .....		2,916.15	
Repairing & Servicing - Buildings & Grounds .....		41,364.91	
Repairing & Servicing - EDP Equipment .....		132,563.62	
Repairing & Servicing - Office Equipment .....		10,639.95	
SAAS, MMRS, Department of Audit & Personnel Board Fees ....		24,701.70	
Professional Fees (IS & Misc) .....		126,375.77	
Witness Fees .....		41,320.00	
Liability Insurance Pool Contributions .....		9,839.53	
Insurance & Fidelity Bonds .....		4,846.00	
Software Acquisition .....		27,297.98	
Dues & Subscriptions .....		5,751.00	
Printing & Binding .....		1,229.00	
Office Supplies & Material .....		19,248.72	
Paper Supplies .....		5,286.23	
Maps, Manuals & Instruction Materials .....		9,363.54	
Photographic & Reproduction Supplies .....		9,385.46	
Building & Grounds Supplies .....		5,170.51	
Hardware, Plumbing & Electrical Supplies .....		2,473.84	
Janitorial Supplies .....		2,346.09	
Miscellaneous Expense .....		450.47	
Transfer to Other Funds & Miscellaneous Refunds .....		500,000.00	
Equipment .....		<u>72,101.19</u>	
Total .....	\$		<u>4,415,241.81</u>

Balance from Operations .....	\$	<u>(21,392.25)</u>
Balance June 30, 1999 .....		6,283,766.85
Accounts Receivable - Assessments Insurance Companies & Self Insurers .....		39,282.00
Interest Receivable .....		<u>10,449.00</u>
Total Cash & Receivables June 30, 1999 .....	\$	<u><u>6,333,497.85</u></u>

**COMMITMENTS:**

FY 2000 Budget - Operating ..... \$ 5,299,999.00

Reserve for Contingencies, Shortfall in Assessment Collection &

Interest Income, Increases in Operating Costs ..... 1,033,498.85

Total ..... \$ 6,333,497.85